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DEC 09 2008

5. (Previously Presented) A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the discharge vessel has a quartz wall or a ceramic wall.

6. (Previously Presented) A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of the distance d_e between the electrodes (6, 7) to the height h_{dl} of the high-pressure discharge lamp measured along the longitudinal axis (22) lies in a range of:

$$0.02 \leq \frac{d_e}{h_{dl}} \leq 0.2.$$

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A high-pressure discharge lamp comprising:

an outer envelope (1) in which a discharge vessel (11) is arranged around a longitudinal axis (22),

the discharge vessel (11) enclosing, in a gastight manner, a discharge space (13) provided with an ionizable filling,

the discharge vessel (11) having a first (2) and a second (3) mutually opposed neck-shaped portion through which a first (4) and a second (5) current-supply conductor, respectively, extend to a pair of electrodes (6, 7) arranged in the discharge space (13),

the outer envelope (1) having a bulb-shaped portion (2)-adjacent the discharge space (13),

the bulb-shaped portion (2) having a wall thickness d_1 ,

the remainder of the outer envelope (1) having a wall thickness d_2 , wherein the ratio of d_1 and d_2 wherein the ratio of d_1 and d_2 is in a range of:

$$0.4 \leq \frac{d_1}{d_2} \leq 0.8.$$